

## **§ 41.8**

dispute. The Commission may also, in its discretion, at any stage in the proceeding, set the proceeding for hearing.

[Order 575, 60 FR 4854, Jan. 25, 1995]

### **§ 41.8 Burden of proof.**

The burden of proof to justify every accounting entry shall be on the person making, authorizing, or requiring such entry.

#### **CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH ACCOUNTING REGULATIONS**

### **§ 41.10 Examination of accounts.**

(a) All Major and Nonmajor public utilities and licensees not classified as Class C or Class D prior to January 1, 1984 shall secure, for the year 1968 and each year thereafter until December 31, 1975, the services of an independent certified public accountant, or independent licensed public accountant, certified or licensed by a regulatory authority of a State or other political subdivision of the United States, to test compliance in all material respects of those schedules as are indicated in the General Instructions set out in the Annual Report, Form No. 1, with the Commission's applicable Uniform System of Accounts and published accounting releases. The Commission expects that identification of questionable matters by the independent accountant will facilitate their early resolution and that the independent accountant will seek advisory rulings by the Commission on such items. This examination shall be deemed supplementary to periodic Commission examinations of compliance.

(b) Beginning January 1, 1976, and each year thereafter, only independent certified public accountants, or independent licensed public accountants who were licensed on or before December 31, 1970, will be authorized to conduct annual audits and to certify to compliance in all material respects, of those schedules as are indicated in the General Instructions set out in the Annual Report, Form No. 1, with the Commission's applicable Uniform System of Accounts, published accounting

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releases and all other regulatory matters.

[Order 462, 37 FR 26005, Dec. 7, 1972, as amended by Order 390, 49 FR 32505, Aug. 14, 1984]

### **§ 41.11 Report of certification.**

Each Major and Nonmajor (including those companies classified as nonoperating under Part 101, General Instruction 1(A)(3) of this chapter) public utility or licensee operating on a calendar year and not classified as Class C or Class D prior to January 1, 1984 must file with the Commission a letter or report of the independent accountant certifying approval, together with or within 30 days after the filing of the Annual Report, Form No. 1, covering the subjects and in the form prescribed in the General Instructions of the Annual Report. For such utility or licensee operating on a non-calendar fiscal year, the letter or report of the independent accountant certifying approval must be filed within 150 days of the close of the company's fiscal year; the letter or report must also identify which, if any, of the examined schedules do not conform to the Commission's requirements and shall describe the discrepancies that exist. The Commission will not be bound by a certification of compliance made by an independent accountant pursuant to this paragraph.

[73 FR 58736, Oct. 7, 2008]

### **§ 41.12 Qualifications of accountants.**

The Commission will not recognize any certified public accountant or public accountant through December 31, 1975, who is not in fact independent. Beginning January 1, 1976, and each year thereafter, the Commission will recognize only independent certified public accountants, or independent licensed public accountants who were licensed on or before December 31, 1970, who are in fact independent. For example, an accountant will not be considered independent with respect to any person or any of its parents or subsidiaries in whom he has, or had during the period of report, any direct financial interest. The Commission will determine the fact of independence by considering all the relevant circumstances